

RESPONSE:

Claims 6-12 have been cancelled and rewritten as claims 25-31; the Office's indication that these claims (as well as claims 13-16 which now depend therefrom) are allowable is acknowledged with appreciation.

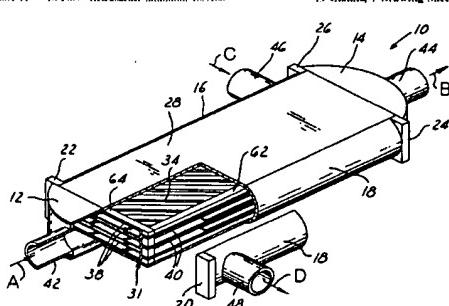
Withdrawn claims 18-24 have been cancelled thereby obviating any additional claim fees being necessitated by the present filing.

ARGUMENTS:

All of the claim rejections (claims 1-5 and 17) are based primarily on *Mathur et al. '874*.

US06516874B2

(12) United States Patent Mathur <i>et al.</i>	(10) Patent No.: US 6,516,874 B2
	(45) Date of Patent: Feb. 11, 2003
(54) ALL WELDED PLATE HEAT EXCHANGER (75) Inventors: Achint P. Mathur, Wichita Falls, TX (US); Chuanhai Gu, Wichita Falls, TX (US); Jason Michael Fulmer, Wichita Falls, TX (US) (73) Assignee: Delaware Capital Formation, Inc., Wilmington, DE (US) (*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days. (21) Appl. No.: 10005,949 (22) Filed: Dec. 5, 2001 (65) Prior Publication Data US 2003/0100067 A1 Jan. 2, 2003 Related U.S. Application Data (66) Provisional application No.: 60/302,219, filed on Jun. 29, 2001 (51) Int. Cl.7 F28F 3/00 (52) U.S. Cl. 165/166, 165/170, 165/167 (58) Field of Search 165/166, 167, 165/146, 170 (56) References Cited U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS 3,473,644 A * 10/1969 Giebelbach 165/166	
3,613,782 A * 10/1973 Mabon 165/166 3,736,324 A * 10/1973 Dawson <i>et al.</i> 165/166 3,736,326 A * 10/1973 Dawson <i>et al.</i> 165/166 4,183,461 A * 10/1980 Nichols 165/166 4,288,620 A * 8/1987 Pepe <i>et al.</i> 165/166 5,299,854 A * 3/1994 Lee <i>et al.</i> 165/166 5,301,854 A * 3/1994 Lee <i>et al.</i> 165/166 5,469,914 A * 11/1995 Davison <i>et al.</i> 165/166 5,499,460 A * 12/1996 Berlin 165/166 6,047,662 D1 * 2/2000 Blomberg 165/166 6,347,662 D1 * 2/2002 Davison <i>et al.</i> 165/166	
<small>* cited by examiner</small> Primary Examiner—Henry Bennett Assistant Examiner—Terrell McKinnon (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm: Reising, Ellington, Barnes, Kisselle, Leaman & McCulloch, PC (57) ABSTRACT The invention relates to an all-welded plate heat exchanger comprised of a plurality of plates welded together to form cassette that is inserted into a header assembly that provide primary and secondary flowing channels through which fluids are adapted to flow for exchanging heat. The primary channels provided within the cassette connect at opposite ends with inlet and outlet openings. The cassette is welded along its opposite sides via respective top and bottom flange strips fastened between the cassette to partially close off the sides of the secondary channels provided between the cassettes. Two inlet headers, two outlet headers, a top cover member and a bottom cover member enclose the stacked cassettes.	
19 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets	



As may be appreciated above, *Mathur et al. '874* has two possible 102(e) effective dates: 29 June 2001 for the subject matter disclosed in Provisional Patent Application 60/302,219 and 05 December 2001 for any additional subject matter disclosed in the Utility Application filing.

Serial No.: 10/605,382
Confirmation No.: 2381
Applicant: LAGERSTRÖM, Gunnar *et al.*
Atty. Ref.: 00173.0040.PCUS00

Applicant has attempted to investigate these issues, but the two applications are NOT available in an image file wrapper from the PTO. Therefore, should the Office reiterate these *Mathur et al.* '874-based rejections, it is respectfully requested that copies of the two relevant applications be supplied in the next official action.

However, Applicants enjoy a claimed (and now perfected) priority date of 27 March 2001 (Swedish Priority Application 0101085-9) via the accompanying (Annex "A") English translation of said priority application. This priority date predates both possible effective dates of *Mathur et al.* '874 thereby removing it as a legal reference under ALL sections of 35 USC 102. Therefore, withdrawal of the *Mathur et al.* '874-based rejections is respectfully requested.

The undersigned representative requests any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application.

The undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 14-1437, Order No. 00173.0040.PCUS00.

In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, the Examiner should directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.

Respectfully submitted,



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